Promotion of Regional Cooperation for Flood Control by Bangladesh

2259. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem which appeared in the 'Hindu' dated the 17th October, 1988 to the effect that Bangladesh President had turned down the 1978 Indian proposal of Ganga-Brahmaputra link Canal and that he is scheduled to visit China shortly to promote regional cooperation for flood control; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government are of the view that the Indian proposal of 1978 would offer the most comprehensive benefits including flood control Government have no comments on the visit of the President of Bangladesh to China.

Construction of National Highway Bypass Near Dibrugarh

2260. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to construct a national highway bypass near Dibrugarh in Assam;

(b) what are the details thereof;

(c) whether the survey has been completed; and

(d) if so, by when the construction work is likely to start and the year of its completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Only preliminary survey has been carried out and estimate for the acquisition of land is awaited from the State Government. It is too early to indicate dates about the start and completion of the project.

Plan for Flood Control in India-Bangladesh Border Region

2261. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any specific plans for flood control in Indo-Bangladesh border region which would be discussed at the meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Task Force;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to involve other neighbouring countries in these discussions, as suggested by Bangladesh authorities?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) and (b) Government had proposed a comprehensive Scheme to Bangladesh which would moderate the intensity of floods in Bangladesh and also make available water for augmenting dry season flows in the Ganga, through the construction of three dams, a barrage and canal to carry surplus water from the Brahmaputra to the Ganga. India has also offered to share expertise with Bangladesh for devising proper flood protection measures within Bangladesh and to upgrade existing bilateral arrangements for flood forecasting.

(c) No, Sir.

Commission to Inquire into Excesses of I.P.K.F.

2262. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the articles written by Justice Krishna Iyyar in Economical and Political Weekly, recently; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and what is Government's

reaction to the demand made in the article for appointing of a three-man Commission of present Judges of the Supreme Court to enquire into the alleged excess of Indian Peace Keeping Force?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The articles deal with a wide range of issues relating to the Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement and the presence of the IPKF in Sri Lanka.

Government do not see any justification for the appointment of a Commission as the IPKF has been doing an exemplary job under very difficult circumstances.

Suggestions of Planning Commission on Rail Fares

2263. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high power steering Committee of Planning Commission on Transport has suggested that structure of existing rail fares for Mail and Express trains should be reviewed *i.e.*, the second class ordinary fares be abolished and in lieu thereof, present mail and expres fares should be charged; and

(b) If so, what are the details of other suggestions made by the Committee and what is the reaction of the Railways to each suggestion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The Steering Committee on Perspective Planning for Transport Development has made a general observation regarding the need to review the existing fare structure for Mail/Express trains. The Committee has also observed that a review of 2nd class ordinary fares to bring them closer to the actual cost of service may be useful. These suggestions are only of a general nature.

राजस्थान में रेलवे लाइनों की लम्बाई

2264. **डा० अबरार अहमद खान :** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) राजस्थान में 1974 के बाद कितने किलोमीटर रेलवे लाइन बिछाई गई, इसका सम्बद्ध पंचवर्षीय योजनानुसार ब्यौरा क्या है और यह कार्य किन क्षेत्रों में किया गया ;

(ख) वर्तमान में राजस्थान में नयी रेलवे लाइनों के लिये स्वीकृत योजनाओं के नाम क्या हैं तथा जिन योजनाओं के अधीन कार्य आरम्भ किया गया था, के नाम क्या है तथा उन स्वीकृत योजनाओं के नाम क्या हैं जिनके अधीन अभी भी कार्य आरम्भ किया जाना है तथा उस पर कब तक कार्य आरम्भ हो जाने की संभावना है तथा कार्य आरम्भ किये जाने में विलम्ब होने के क्या कारण हैं ; और

(ग) आजादी के बाद राज्यवार कितने किलो मीटर लम्बी लाइन बिछायी गयी तथा प्रत्येक राज्य में रेलवे के विकास पर कितनी धनराशि व्यय की गई तथा व्यय की गई धनराशि में राजस्थान का हिस्सा कितना है ?

रेल मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री माधवराव सिन्धिया) : (क) 1974 से राजस्थान में खोली गयी रेल लाइनों का ब्यौरा नीचे दिया गया है :--

पंचवर्षीय/वार्षिक योजना का ब्यौरा	खोले गये रेल मार्ग कि०मी०	रेल लाइन का नाम
पांचवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना 1978-79	30	डाबला-सिंधाना
वार्षिक योजना	1	मदार-हट्टण्डी बाई-पास